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R 012010Z MAY 06  
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2724  
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0054

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 000846

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STATE FOR WHA/CAR (BENT), ALSO FOR WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/27/2016  
TAGS: [CU](#) [ETRD](#) [ETTC](#) [PREL](#) [JM](#)  
SUBJECT: NSC-DIRECTED REVIEW REGARDING SUSPENSION OF TITLE  
III OF THE LIBERTAD ACT

REF: A. SECSTATE 57782

- [1](#)B. 04 KINGSTON 01765
- [1](#)C. 05 KINGSTON 02618 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: AMBASSADOR BRENDA JOHNSON. REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

This message responds to questions asked in ref. A.

[1](#)1. (C) Since the determination that the Jamaican-owned "SuperClubs" brand of all-inclusive resorts was operating in Cuba in violation of Title IV of the Libertad Act, and subsequently divested itself of assets there (ref. B), Post is unaware of any Jamaican investments in Cuba. However, many Jamaicans, including businesspeople, oppose U.S. policy towards Cuba, which hampers post efforts to gather accurate data on investments. A contact at the Jamaica Promotions Agency (JAMPRO) stated that while a number of Jamaican companies export to Cuba, she "was not aware" of any Jamaican entity with a commercial presence in Cuba.

[1](#)2. (SBU) There is no direct bilateral trade agreement between GOJ and Cuba. There is a partial scope trade agreement between CARICOM, of which Jamaica is a member, and Cuba. The Jamaican government, through the Export-Import Bank, has an established line of credit with Banco Nacional de Cuba in order to facilitate exports.

[1](#)3. (U) As stated in ref. C, in July 2005, the Cuban government expanded the medical program "Mision Milagro" (Miracle Mission) to residents of the Caribbean, providing operations in Cuba free of charge for people with cataracts or other treatable eye conditions. Under the cooperation agreement on energy conservation also mentioned in ref. B, Cuba provided energy-saving compact fluorescent bulbs to households in East Kingston and Port Royal; distribution actually began in February, 2006 and is ongoing. Cultural and educational exchanges take place, and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, K.D. Knight, has spoken of "Cuban assistance for Jamaican students" in the form of scholarships to study in Cuba. An April 29 article in The Gleaner newspaper, titled: "With Some Help From Our Friends" refers to the presence of Cuban sporting coaches in Jamaica under an arrangement slated to last for five years, orchestrated by the Institute of Sports of Jamaica (INSPORTS).

[1](#)4. (SBU) Post is unaware of any recent measures taken by the GOJ to advance democracy, human rights, and fundamental freedoms in Cuba. Post has no evidence that the GOJ has substantially changed its policies or actions toward Cuba in the six months since the submission of our last assessment in November 2005 (Ref. C). Jamaica continues to maintain cordial diplomatic relations with Cuba, its close geographical neighbor.

15. (U) Jamaica has a diplomatic presence in Havana. Additionally, in December 2005, Jamaican Minister of Water and Housing, Donald Buchanan, led a delegation to Cuba where he held meetings with Minister of Water Jorge Aspiolia Roig and the President of the National Housing Institute of Cuba Victor Ramirez Ruiz. Also in December, Jamaican Education Minister Maxine Henry-Wilson signed an agreement to renew ongoing cooperation between Jamaica and Cuba in the field of education through the "I Can" or "Yo si puedo" program, which began in 1997.

16. (C) Post continues to believe that suspension of the right to bring action in U.S. courts against entities and nationals trafficking in confiscated properties in Cuba is necessary to U.S. interests. Singling out Jamaican entities or nationals for prosecution would be counterproductive in achieving other USG objectives. In Post,s view, proceeding with the implementation of Title III of the Libertad Act would seriously complicate, and perhaps even compromise, our efforts in areas of agreement. Actions against Jamaican nationals would likely provoke a strong response from GOJ.  
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